

03/10/2022

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for allowing me to speak today, my name is Paula Ryan and I operate Ryan Oil Company, Inc. in Hamden, CT along with my son. We have been in business for over 33 years.

With that said I would like to speak to you about the Electrification of Connecticut.

We all strive to make a better world for our children, grandchildren and the future for Connecticut, and to Electrify Connecticut in my opinion would not be the way to do it.

To tell the residents of Connecticut that they have to convert to Whole home electric heat pump systems, is not within the constitution we all live by.

First to convert to a whole home electric heat pump systems it can cost the home owner between \$20,000 and \$40,000 thousand dollars compared to upgrading their existing heat source whether it be oil-heat, propane or natural gas. To upgrade an existing system typically cost between \$7,000- \$12,000 thousand dollars.

Besides the cost factor of converting, there is also the cost factor for maintenance. Maintenance on a whole home heat pump system can take an entire day. Which increases the recommended annual maintenance costs by two to five times the cost of a traditional heating system. Not to mention the cost it takes to maintain your secondary heating system. Yes, I said secondary heat source. Heat pumps struggle to keep homes warm when temperatures plunge, therefore requiring homeowners to have a traditional heating system as well. So this secondary can be used to ensure that the house can stay warm. If the heat pump is not sized properly for the house it will not be affective.

With the cost of converting and maintaining the heat pump, there is also the question of longevity. Heat pumps only last 15 to 20 years, where a traditional boiler can last 30 years or more.

Why should consumers have to have and pay for two separate heating systems?

To Electrify does not mean emissions free! Natural gas, coal and oil can generate more than 60% of our electricity. Whereas Heating oil and propane are transitioning to renewable fuels. In fact, the legislature passed a bill just last year that will require the use of locally produced biodiesel to replace traditional heating oil.

Heat pumps utilize R-410A which is a refrigerant mixture that is a much higher pressure than its predecessor R-22. The Refrigerant seeks to escape to the atmosphere. R-410A has a global warming potential almost 2,000 times greater than carbon dioxide over a 100-year period.

Consumers should be able to choose the equipment and fuel they want to use to heat their home.

Thank you again for your time with me.